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DA 14-1910

Released: December 31, 2014

Announcement of Comment Deadlines for Closed Captioning Quality Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

CG Docket No. 05-231

Comment Due Date: January 20, 2015 Reply Comment Due Date: January 30, 2015

On February 24, 2014, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) released the *Closed Captioning Quality Order*, which adopted closed captioning quality standards and technical compliance rules to ensure that video programming is fully accessible to individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing through the provision of closed captioning.¹ A Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Further Notice) accompanying this order sought comment on additional measures to ensure the accessibility of television programming and ways to improve the Commission's procedural rules governing closed captioning.²

On December 15, 2014, as follow-up to comments received in response to the Further Notice, the Commission released a Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (*Second FNPRM*) to seek comment on a few issues that had been raised by commenters, which the Commission believed would be helpful to resolving the remaining matters raised by the *Closed Captioning Quality Order*.³ Specifically, the Commission invited comment on whether it should adopt a requirement for video programmers to file contact information and certifications of captioning compliance with the Commission or whether any other means should be used to make programmer contact information and certifications more widely available to consumers, video programming distributors (VPDs), and other interested parties.⁴

Comments and reply comments are due 20 and 30 days, respectively, after the publication of the *Second FNPRM* in the Federal Register.⁵ Because the summary of the *Second FNPRM* was published in

¹ Closed Captioning of Video Programming; Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. Petition for Rulemaking, CG Docket No. 05-231, Report and Order, Declaratory Ruling, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 29 FCC Rcd 2221 (2014) (Closed Captioning Quality Order). The Closed Captioning Quality Order is also available on the Commission's website at http://www.fcc.gov/document/closed-captioning-quality-report-and-order-declaratory-ruling-fnprm.

² *Id*.

³ See Closed Captioning of Video Programming: Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. Petition for Rulemaking, CG Docket No. 05-231, Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 14-206 (released Dec. 15, 2014) (Second FNPRM). The Second FNPRM is also available on the Commission's website at: http://www.fcc.gov/document/captioning-video-programmer-registration-and-compliance-certification.

⁴ *Id*.

⁵ *Id*.

the Federal Register on December 31, 2014, 6 comments are due on or before January 20, 2015, and reply comments are due on or before January 30, 2015.

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For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Eliot Greenwald, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability Rights Office, 202-418-2235 or email Eliot.Greenwald@fcc.gov.

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⁶ FCC, 47 CFR Part 79, 79 FR 78768 (Dec. 31, 2014).